CAMPAIGN 1992 - NBC NIGHTLY NEWS REPORTS (MARCH)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w)

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From March 1992, NBC Nightly news reports of the 1992 Presidential campaign.

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itself for weeks now george bush has been under attack from fellow republican pat buchanan now does the democrats turn to attack each other their character and integrity the reason well on tuesday four states will hold primaries three more will have party caucuses the prize almost 500 delegates andrea mitchell in washington the pressure is beginning to show isn't it it sure is garrick the democratic campaign is beginning to look like a demolition derby the nominee may turn out to be whoever is still in one piece when it's all over the campaign has turned mean so soon partly because of the election calendar having so many early southern primaries heavily favors arkansas governor bill clinton clinton's opponents need to slow him down in this tuesday's voting so that he doesn't become unstoppable next week super tuesday when most southern states hold their primaries for paul songas that means courting the black vote a major factor in georgia and maryland for war hero bob kerry it means damaging clinton with a large number of southerners who care deeply about military service debating today in atlanta kerry hammered clinton again on the draft issue what do you say to a young person when you're selling your national service program when they come back and ask you how come you didn't serve in the 1960s i tell them first of all that i oppose that war i thought it was a terrible mistake after spending the morning in church the candidates were a little more polite today than last night when they slugged it out in denver we do not need to do what senator sanges wants to do and build hundreds of more nuclear plants to become energy independent one of the reasons he's ahead in the polls is people don't know what he stands for you don't want to build any more nuclear power plants come say you don't then let me read this is not something you can argue with no one can be sure no one can argue with you paul you're always perfect i'm not perfect but i'm honest clinton is attacking because sagas is doing surprisingly well in colorado despite little campaigning there

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little campaigning there you don't have this straight okay you're not supposed to approve of me until i come here and campaign it's been getting more vicious all week it was in colorado that clinton unleashed his strongest challenge to song as his economic proposals he says he'll be the best president wall street ever had that's a direct quote i am tired of the what is cold-blooded being passed off is courage i'm tired of it the fact is that that statement was taken out of context is bill clinton now our resident expert on courage songs and clinton are also going head-to-head in washington state which holds caucuses on tuesday and when they're not bashing each other in public they're doing it in negative advertisements attacking each other's records although he's run his share song has tried to call a truce last night a pledge against negative ads i started yesterday because you've been on my back for a long time put your hand up put your hand up phil no negative ads put your hand up it's not likely that anyone will sign a non-aggression pact not when time is short tempers are hot and the stakes are high garrick thanks andrew mitchell and with us now is peter hart longtime democratic party pollster and consultant good evening sir people following this campaign may be asking the question the democrats have a golden opportunity many think to defeat george bush but are they blowing this opportunity well let's say that they're not taking their best advantage of making the maximum

impression on their first opportunity the voters don't know these candidates and they want to get out there and tell them what they're about and they seem to be better off running against one another than really stating what they care about most but is it impossible or too much to ask that they be more diplomatic or really focus on george bush at this stage of the campaign reality is reality i don't think so garrick i think really what's happened is that they just have figured out how to run against one another and they've got an excellent target out

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and they've got an excellent target out there and that's george bush they started off well in december and january but as times have gotten tight and money is short they seem to be running against one another but let me say one thing for all the negative campaigning that's going on on the democratic side the republicans are running a limbo contest and they're getting awful low some voices aren't being heard in this campaign jesse jackson is not a candidate the poor minorities are they the forgotten people the democratic campaign 1992 i don't think so i think you saw it today in terms of some of the debate and i think that you're going to see it throughout i don't think the democrats are going to face and uh forget their base constituency that's not my concern all right peter hart thank you very much in washington now what about the republicans they were in a last-minute battle for georgia voters as well today george bush was at a riverfront rally in savannah trying to head off a protest vote like the one that gave patrick buchanan strong backing in new hampshire for his part buchanan took his campaign to a sunday school at a fundamentalist church in atlanta georgia the primary there is on tuesday our voice of the people now voters in seven states go to the polls or caucuses tomorrow and president bush hopes to stop the challenge by pat buchanan the big battleground is georgia where buchanan is working hard to woo an element of ronald reagan's coalition southern democrats nbc's bob kerr headed south to talk to the reagan democrats of columbus georgia i would want somebody in there that would be uh more interested in the american economy than rather than sending our hard-earned dollars overseas well i'm going to vote for buchanan because i want bush to know that i don't support the way the things he's been doing lately the last time i voted democratic was for jimmy carter

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jimmy carter but since then the republicans gave us a better program i thought at the time and was willing to switch my vote to the republican party they're the ones who say they didn't leave the democratic party it left them and this time they're not trying to decide between clinton songhus or other democrats for many it's bush or buchanan some of the democrats have already been calling in and saying they're going to vote in the republican primary for pat buchanan from the atlanta suburbs to rural parts of the state key elements of buchanan's message are right at home pat buchanan says it's the sons of middle america who pay the price of reverse discrimination i believe that and he says the civil rights bill president bush signed will result in racial quotas i agree with that also he's for strongly restricting immigration for example you know really sealing off the borders i agree with that 100 percent yet georgia is not new hampshire it's more temperate in climate and more moderate on some issues the recession hasn't been as bad either though buchanan seems likely to get help from so-called reagan democrats crossing over to support him many republicans i met seemed reluctant to use buchanan as a protest vote he's almost too conservative for me he's against any kind of foreign spending and and that sounds good i'm not sure it's the best for our country on the long term pat is a great uh analyst that's a great analyst i do not think that buchanan would make us a good governor a president of the united states i really wouldn't what you begin to pick up here is that people appreciate pat buchanan for what he is not necessarily for what he'd like to become and that they appreciate george bush for what he is moderate and experienced i like the way bush handles himself i

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i like the way bush handles himself i have i give him a great credit for desert storm frankly i think he's done as good a job as anybody else could in the situation given the situation that he's in and the problems that he's had to encounter and talk about problems democrats seem to have more than their share i'm not

particularly thrilled with any of the choices on the democratic side that i have seen so far still many democrats will choose among that party's candidates in the primary the trick for the party is to get them to break the habit of voting republican in november bob kerr nbc news columbus georgia this time i've been going over the figures from georgia from maryland and from colorado in our poll of voters as they left the polling places about two-thirds of those are in and we've learned various things the gender gap is still alive and it's hurting pat buchanan as we saw in three states today in new hampshire a week or so ago women dislike pat buchanan and they did it again today the president is being hurt by pat buchanan but the wounds are not mortal the biggest buchanan vote we're seeing is coming in georgia many democratic voters would like another candidate that's a repeat of what we've seen before the cancer that paul tsongas once had was no problem for him today and the draft issue that haunted bill clinton was no problem for him today in georgia uh pat buchanan did convince some independents and democrats to vote in the republican primary that helped him a bit clinton did very well with blacks in georgia in maryland there was a big send bush a message vote and many of those voters told us they would vote democratic this fall the economy was important and that helped songs a big surprise in colorado a very tight race and jerry brown is very competitive based on his stance on the environment and health care the figures in these three states are not good news for kerry or for harkin

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good news for kerry or for harkin and if i could sum up today's figures tom i would say the president was bruised the democrats are still confused and the public feels abused pretty nicely done john thank you very much reporting tonight from nbc news headquarters in new york good evening this is the most important day yet in the long 92 presidential campaign a day when the democratic field shakes down a day when george bush had hoped to kick loose pat buchanan primaries and caucuses in seven states will likely leave arkansas governor bill clinton and former massachusetts senator paul songas atop the democratic pac and on the republican side the president is urgently trying to find the right handle again we have nbc's john cochran with the president andrea mitchell covering the democrats tonight john let's begin with you and the president's struggle tom the president's aides have given up any faint hope that pat buchanan would do so badly today that he would pull out of the race before the super tuesday primaries next week faced with a stiff conservative challenge the president suddenly admitted that breaking his no new taxes pledge was the worst mistake of his presidency today's atlanta journal quotes bush is saying listen if i had to do that over i wouldn't do it look at all the flack it's taking adding that the tax increase has brought him political grief today the president tried to soften that saying he is worried not only about his political fate but about new attempts in congress to raise taxes and spending i thought this one compromise and it was a compromise would result in no more tax increases pat buchanan couldn't wait to say i told you so why then all this criticism of pat buchanan when i criticized the tax hike if he agrees with them i'm saying to myself given all these attacks and given those facts hey this is a mistake everybody's entitled to one i'm not going to make another one it's not only a cocky pat buchanan but ronald reagan who thinks bush blew it with the tax increase reagan backs bush but limited picture taking during their meeting last week to this photo even so bush mentioned reagan's name

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even so bush mentioned reagan's name twice today as he courted the religious right during a taxpayer paid trip to a convention of evangelicals in chicago conservatives had never trusted bush even though after becoming reagan's number two he switched to reagan's positions on women's rights and abortion today bush promised to block pro-choice legislation now in congress it would impose on all 50 states an unprecedented regime of abortion on demand going well beyond even roe versus wade this is not right and it will not become law as long as i am president of the united states of america and just how long that will be is of course the big question tonight the president's campaign advisors hope that the only message voters sent today is that they are unhappy not that they're really fed up tom thank you john and nbc's andrea mitchell on the democratic side clinton and songus expect to emerge tonight but we can't rule out jerry brown andre you've been tracking their strategy tom today's voting is paul songas's big chance just to show that he can

win outside new england and bill clinton's chance to score his first primary victory poised to win in maryland and showing strength in colorado and washington state songus was calling himself the breakthrough kid claiming he's no longer a regional candidate from what we're here we're doing quite well and um in maryland which was the battleground if these numbers hold we'll have a very convincing victory so i think we've broken through barriers that were alleged to have existed clinton was expected to win on his southern turf georgia no question that he views it now as a two-man race he attacks songus repeatedly today is a throwback to reagan bush economics and now we're having a fight in the democratic party with somebody who says the same thing growth first fairness later bull we never had growth without fairness and we never will zongas had made maryland a crucial test

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zongas had made maryland a crucial test going there immediately after his new hampshire victory it's no accident that this is where i came first maryland is critical his economic message caught on with better educated suburban whites he had difficulty connecting to maryland's black voters a quarter of the electorate in maryland and georgia where a third of the voters are black song has campaigned hard trying to bridge the gap but most blacks felt more comfortable with clinton a son of the south songus did surprise party leaders in georgia by being tougher and funnier than they'd expected but to most southerners he was at best unknown at worst a foreigner if you're a christian glad to know it clinton on the other hand knew the language of the region for the thing that got me interested in politics as a child was the idea that the discrimination of my native south was wrong today clinton was already campaigning in florida courting votes he will need next week on super tuesday songus was hoping a good showing if not a win in colorado and washington will enhance his national image jerry brown was touting his strength in colorado to prove he's still a contender we think we're now in a position to challenge the front runners mr clinton and mr sangas all but out of the race tom harkin holding on to the slim read of a victory in minnesota and also way behind bob carey hoping to survive but campaigning now only in the west hoping he can stay in in case the front runners stumble tom thank you andra and as the campaign heats up so do the claims in the candidate commercials in some cases they're overheated nbc's lisa myers tonight with a fact check of the latest round of commercials pat buchanan has been hammering george bush with an ad attacking the national endowment for the arts in the last three years the bush administration has invested our tax dollars in pornographic and blasphemous art too shocking to show that's misleading

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too shocking to show that's misleading first the bush administration had absolutely nothing to do with the film in this ad it was produced with five thousand dollars from a grant bestowed during the reagan administration and there's another problem the buchanan ad distorts the record of the national endowment for the arts by suggesting that this film is a typical instance of funding it's not the vast majority of nea money supports groups like the chicago symphony and programs such as live from lincoln center the bush campaign also has taken liberties with ads trumpeting the president's leadership now he has an agenda to strengthen our economy and make america more competitive in the world to change welfare and make the able-bodied work that's misleading here's why in the three years he's been president he's not submitted a single significant proposal in the welfare reform area another bush ad also generated controversy when pat buchanan opposed desert storm it was a disappointment to all military people wait a minute today the buchanan campaign produced a speech general kelly made in december 1990 when troops already were in the gulf in which he seems to oppose going to war kelly claims he was quoted out of context i have supported president bush from the day he gave the first order to deploy forces to the gulf until the last day of the war now the democrats paul tsongas who preaches honesty plays fast and loose with the truth in attacking his rival support for a middle-class tax cut and they want to give us a tax credit that they're going to have to borrow from my children that's misleading both bill clinton and bob carey would pay for their tax cuts by raising taxes on the rich that means there's no cost to our children in this latest round of ads the theme seems to be distraction distortion and deception and as the stakes get higher it's likely to get worse lisa myers nbc

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it's likely to get worse lisa myers nbc news washington direction the presidential campaign so far is a knock on president bush and a longing for someone other than the democrats now running the president's immediate problem our latest nbc news wall street journal poll of a thousand registered voters over the weekend 48 disapproved of the job the president is doing that's higher than his approval rating of 45 percent and that's down 40 points from a year ago nbc's john cochran in florida covering the president tonight andrea mitchell on the democrats john tom when asked about our new poll white house aides say there is a serious protest vote but that it is not really a pro-buchanan vote whatever that vote is it had the president worried and pulling out the heavy artillery as storm and norman schwarzkopf now dressed in civvies gave his backing today for the first time the president admitted the protest vote is not aimed at all washington politicians it is aimed at george bush it seems to be that way yes i think that's a good way to analyze it and uh but that will turn around economy will turn around bush's aides think the economy will perk up in time to help him in the fall election but not in time to deflate pat buchanan's challenge and today buchanan was anything but deflated as he called on bush to do the honorable thing president bush should begin to give consideration to standing down as a candidate for renomination for the republican party mr bush is in danger of becoming the jimmy carter of the republican party the president spokesman marlon fitzwater said buchanan has gone off the deep end he's gone looney tunes on us buchanan is having fun but where is all this leading here's one scenario after super tuesday buchanan feels he has established his credentials as a contender for the 1996 nomination but if he keeps bashing bush he might endanger the president's reelection and bring down the wrath of the party on

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and bring down the wrath of the party on himself so buchanan asks for and gets a meeting with bush who promises to adhere to conservative principles buchanan then throws his support to bush senior bush aides tell nbc news the president wants buchanan's backing and is willing to look for a way to bring buchanan back into the fold but the trouble with that scenario is that the president has no idea what buchanan really wants tom thank you john at the same time 61 percent of those in our poll did think the president would be reelected as for the democrats a virtual tie between paul songus and bill clinton 16 percent were undecided about their choice jerry brown's support 11 percent nbc's andrea mitchell tonight on the democrats andrea tom songus and clinton made much of their victories but there were some warning signs from the voters for all of the democrats now setting his sights on florida's primary next week super tuesday songs was dressing for his new role a winner outside new england in maryland utah and washington nice to be here clinton was also celebrating and focusing on florida second only to texas in super tuesday's delegate stakes voters so far have said the most important issue is the economy i want more economic opportunities here that's why i came to look at this florida is a diverse state of the south but not really southern at heart a state in which songus thinks he can compete despite clinton's southern roots bill clinton has the advantage in the south i just need to show the flag get the message out nationally neither candidate is a clear front runner in fact four out of ten democratic voters yesterday said they wished someone else were in the race and the new nbc news wall street journal poll reveals another potential problem for clinton 42 of those polled said they'd have serious doubts about supporting him because of the draft controversy and allegations he had an extra marital affair by contrast only nine percent would have serious doubts about supporting songus

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serious doubts about supporting songus because he had cancer both candidates have another word jerry brown scoring with his promise to fight the political system it's in gridlock unless we take a crowbar and break it open nothing's gonna happen yesterday's biggest loser bob kerry a million dollars in debt and likely to quit the race tomorrow tom harkin also almost broke will hang on at least until saturday's primary in south carolina the candidates who are left are now in a sprint for delegates a third of all the delegates will be chosen in the next two weeks tom thank you andrea one of the major differences between this year and last time around the role of blacks not nearly as conspicuous this election nbc national correspondent bob kerr

look for more of this as the campaign moves into the deep south and big northern cities less suburban less middle class but already there are warning signs about low enthusiasm for the democrats especially among blacks in maryland yesterday overall turnout was up but the percentage of black voters was down significantly from four years ago in georgia overall turnout was down significantly and black participation fell seven points to its lowest level since nineteen eighty the results suggested me narrow narrow turn out there's been almost no focus on abandoned urban policy if you're 18 or older and you are not a registered voter raise your hand now in 84 and 88 jackson spent considerable time making sure black and other voters registered his campaign message was aimed at them the messages from this year's candidates are aimed mainly at white middle-class suburban voters an effort to win them back from the republicans the traditional liberal appeal to the urban poor is taking a back seat and i understand why they're doing it they don't want to come out with the

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they don't want to come out with the same kind of tired rhetoric that seems to have been rejected by the massive of people in this country mayor schmoke was able to generate excitement for bill clinton in baltimore but not enough for clinton to win the state in georgia clinton got 70 percent of the black vote but turnout was low and in november that could be the difference between winning and losing we've always always voted for white candidates before if they were exciting and interesting but after the caucus last time around and mondale take it time before that there just hasn't been a lot of interest the next round of primaries features several states with sizable black populations three have 30 percent or more it's a chance for one of the democrats to prove he can bring out the most black voters bob kerr nbc news washington nightly news continues in a moment some encouraging news tonight about colon cancer to get very far selling bitter medicine but these are not usual times after all and paul saungus's tough plan for economic renewal has been getting plenty of attention more from nbc's mike jensen tonight vicki's father is from paul on the david letterman show trying to lighten up wait wait everybody okay bye-bye take care but the fact is paul songus is a serious man on a serious mission the whole thrust of my economics is the manufacturing base that the engine of the economy is manufacturing you don't have manufacturing the rest of it falls apart most of what songs says makes sense to economists even though it's politically risky he'd raise gasoline taxes by three to five cents a gallon every year for ten years so people would drive less save energy

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so people would drive less save energy become less reliant on foreign oil he'd cut the capital gains tax for people who make profits on stock purchases to help finance business growth create jobs he'd give business a tax credit for research and development to build for the future but he would not cut income taxes for individuals he calls that pandering what makes you think that the american people are ready to buy into all of that people are scared stiff about the economy so if you went to them let's say five or six years ago and say we have to have a different attitude you'd be spitting into the wind but now now there's fear and almost terror in the part of some people his 86-page call to economic arms two hundred thousand copies in print and the author available for autographs is full of details of his program he doesn't offer gimmicks just straight tough answers that's what he says in his tv commercial but real life is more complicated some economists say his answers could be even tougher that if he really wanted to be courageous he'd suggest taking a slice out of social security and medicare no politician will go that far what songs will do is warn americans that they've been living over their heads and it's payback time this is the responsibility and people are ready to look at the next generation and say we have to do what's right for them so that means we bring the economy back and we don't give these kids 400 billion dollars of debt every year with what's been happening [Music] while some candidates offer tax cuts songs offers a cold shower telling voters they'd better forget about handouts and start building a better future mike jensen nbc news chicago [Applause] joining me now for commentary on the

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joining me now for commentary on the political landscape john chancellor john tom well in my own humble opinion the news about yesterday's primaries and caucuses is that there isn't any news nothing much changed the results were important to the candidates but what did the rest of us get well we got confirmation confirmation that president bush has a 30 percent problem about 30 percent of the republican voters yesterday wouldn't vote for him is that because of pat buchanan's blue eyes i don't think so mr bush was on the south dakota ballot last week running unopposed and about 30 percent of the voters there cast their ballots for uncommitted we got confirmation that bill clinton can win in his native southland the jerry brown gets stronger the closer the voters are to the pacific ocean and that paul songas is not just a new england regional candidate it looks as though we've got at least a couple of weeks to go in these primary races and maybe more there are two key primaries on march 17th illinois and michigan illinois is where george bush locked up his nomination in 1988 where walter mondale and ronald reagan locked up theirs in 1984 and 1980 march 17th there is one pattern in these contests that's worth mention three candidates are having trouble with the voters two incumbent members of congress kerry and harkin one incumbent president bush three candidates are in better shape sangas clinton and brown none of whom works in washington does that tell us something about the trouble incumbents are in this year dom thank you no money and few prospects nebraska senator bob carey today pulled out of the democratic race for president of the dozen contests so far kerry has won only south dakota but today he took it with a smile after tuesday i feel a little like the jamaican bobsled team at the end of the campaign we were ready to go full throttle but unfortunately we ran out of gas while we have plenty of potential and plenty of enthusiasm unfortunately

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and plenty of enthusiasm unfortunately we do not have plenty of money jerry brown doesn't have much money either but he still is very much in this race in his third run for the white house now the former california governor is living off the land as he runs this time as the outsider are you sure in the right place for the moment jerry brown is in the right place a low budget give him hell at high washington crusade aimed at this year's angry voters the tax code in this country is what i call a banquet feast of corruption we're going to fight to make this stagnant corrupt unresponsive decrepit leadership move aside i want you to raise your hands if you have never given a thousand dollars to an american politician ever in your lifetime is this reborn anti-politician the same jerry brown who raised tens of millions of dollars for california's democratic party the former two-term governor member of a political family this man an outsider even to say outsider in reference to somebody who's been governor for eight years whose father was governor his sister is the elected treasurer uh i'm not an outsider in the sense of my uh of who i've been and who i am but rather my commitment is to the unrepresented ironically this protest candidate brags about his years in office i've come with experience most of you know i was the governor in california after reagan after wandering the world on our spiritual quest brown is back now flying charter planes but still outspent three to one by bill clinton and paul saunders hammering the competition for taking thousand dollar checks they have allowed themselves to be trapped and in some cases corrupted by the powerful forces of greed in campaign debates he's like a tv preacher soliciting money through his 800 number at every chance sam joined this campaign through the number

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number 1-800-426 are more urgent to american voters than reviving this nation's economy bill clinton's remedy more taxes for the rich less taxes for everyone else and that's just for starters nbc chief financial correspondent mike jensen takes a closer look at clinton's economics bill clinton in savannah getting ready to preach his economic gospel tax cuts for the middle class he tells it one-on-one to commuters in suburban maryland to crowds like this one at georgetown university the average working families tax will go down about ten percent a savings of about three hundred and fifty dollars a year and i won't finance it with increasing the deficit instead we will ask those earning over two hundred thousand dollars a year to pay some more economists say that wins votes but doesn't really help the economy those same economists give clinton high grades for much of the rest of his economic program things like a fifty percent cut in the capital gains tax for long-term investments in new businesses that create jobs in america more government

research money for development of new products instead of military equipment defense spending to be reduced by 36 percent over the next five years but clinton also offers a slew of expensive goodies for almost every voting group i want to spend more money on people on education and training and child care i'm tired of people being told they're too rich to get college aid i think i've got a record second to none in helping farmers we're going to have to provide a basic fundamental health care package to all americans clinton is quite specific about his spending programs but the funding is something else where is the money going to come from for many of the things that you talk about in your economic program well first of all if you look at the way we did raise taxes in arkansas i think

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did raise taxes in arkansas i think that's the way the american people want them raised if we raise taxes we dedicated the taxes and we paid for an investment in the future so the people got their money's worth as governor of arkansas clinton raised taxes on gasoline and cigarettes and presided over a general sales tax increase now he's promising to cut taxes and use money from the defense budget by the fifth year of my defense cuts we'll have a 90 billion dollar a year be stepping in a lot of analysts say that big a cut is unlikely and even if the entire defense budget were eliminated it would just about cover the annual budget deficit but clinton says it can all be worked out and that someone has to start looking out for the middle class jensen nbc news macon georgia and when nightly news continues in a moment a government call for more painkillers for patients who undergo surgery in this country bill clinton was hopscotching across the south describing paul songas's economic policies as a throwback to the 80s the idea is you'll have growth now and fairness later that's a load of bull songs at an arizona airline that has filed for protection under the bankruptcy law defended his pro-business approach and democrats who are historically anti-business who don't view working with companies like this to be part of their domain the candidates were continuing an economic debate they had started last night senator sagas gave a speech in which he said i want to be for an interview i want to be the best president wall street ever had so what i'm saying to the wealthy of this country very simply is you invest in america you do very well if you don't invest in america you're going to get hurt again that's really trickle down that's what we've seen for the last 12 years since heading south clinton has also turned to law and order claiming songs does not have a position on crime jerry brown who campaigned with jesse jackson today accused clinton of playing the race card

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the race card and you're here trying to appeal to african-americans let me tell you something hispanics and i want to see where your civil rights jerry the program is chillin you're from california chill out cool nobody has a better civil rights record than i do and you know it and i saw a picture in the new york times with you and senator nunn with a bunch of black prisoners almost a bunch of willie hortons i want to know what message bill were you trying to send to the voters exactly i went there because that represents the kind of program i want to support it looks awfully strange with a bunch of black guys prison uniforms and two white guys standing in front of them like colonial maps clinton is expecting to sweep the south but tonight sangha said he is taking the gloves off his strategy for super tuesday to come in a strong enough second to avoid embarrassment andrea mitchell nbc news washington arkansas native bill clinton may have high hopes for the south on super tuesday but paul sagas has drawn a line in the sand of florida a state with a character all its own florida has become super tuesday's biggest battleground and nbc's lisa myers is there if this is your idea of florida think again in the last decade this state has gotten younger better educated and more latin we're getting folks from all over florida has grown enormously over the past 10 years a third of the electorate was not here 10 years ago the issue on everyone's mind the economy tourism is way off unemployment at 8.6 percent still president bush remained so popular here the top republicans say anything above 30 percent for pat buchanan would be an insult to bush one bush trouble spot though the cuban community which doesn't think he's done enough to get rid of castro i'm looking forward to being the first president of the united states to set foot on the free soil of post-castro cuba on the democratic side the primary sounds like class

00:38:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=2281s)

side the primary sounds like class warfare bill clinton is running an old-style democratic campaign he promises low-income voters more government help before jewish groups he bashes bush's mideast policy i believe the settlements issue has to be resolved at the peace process by israel and her arab neighbors and he tells the elderly one-third of the primary vote that paul saunders would reduce their social security cost of living increases i'm opposed to that and i won't do it if i'm president today song is fired back with a new ad some people will say anything to be elected president now bill clinton is distorting paul saunders record on social security trying to scare people clinton's endorsements money and organization will pay off in key battlegrounds like condo heaven we hope that you'll vote for bill clinton songdis has only a few condo commandos like 78 year old joe gertler let me urge you to vote for paul sagas that's what i'm working for what does he pay what does he pay he'll pay us for the better america that's what he'll pay us with but songs has other assets he's politically chic particularly among well-educated professionals beyond his economic program he seems to be a forthright type of guy to some veterans this race looks a little like 1984 when walter mondale was upset by gary hart clinton is like mondale because he is perceived as the candidate who is catering to special interests songs is like heart because he is perceived being the more independent candidate right now this race looks very close clinton clearly is the favorite but the ingredients are here for an upset and songus will be spending a lot of time here between now and tuesday hoping to get hot lisa myers nbc news miami bc nightly news reported by garrett utley good evening south carolina is different it holds its primary on saturday rather than a tuesday which means that today the candidates were hoping for momentum to take them into super tuesday president bush and governor bill clinton

00:40:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=2401s)

president bush and governor bill clinton were favored to win in their respective contests but the question as always is by how much the polls there close in half an hour and kenley jones is in columbia south carolina garrick mr bush benefited from the republican party machine here in south carolina led by governor carol campbell who said he threatened to bury pat buchanan's challenge to the president here election officials had predicted a light voter turnout although republican voters turned out in higher numbers than expected the economy was the big issue here the state's unemployment rate has risen to almost seven and a half percent the highest in more than six years while textile industry jobs have been declining here partly as a result of foreign competition the state ranks high in exports of light manufacturing goods and other products so the free trade that president bush espouses is more popular here than the protectionism pat buchanan has been preaching clifford short says he's sticking with bush george has been a pretty good president for the last four years i like his policies buchanan's a little bit too far right wing for me david duke is way out david duke was on the republican ballot for the first time here which took more votes away from buchanan nevertheless there were still a lot of people who continued to send mr bush a message by voting for buchanan i want mr bush to i guess get a little more conservative i don't necessarily think he'll make the best president but i think that he certainly sent a message on the democratic side bill clinton was the overwhelming favorite especially among black voters and he impressed me as a progressive upward mobility kind of guy who was interested in in education seeing that people go to work paul sanges did not spend much time in the state well i think he's got the right balance between looking out for the economy and looking out for working people from what i can

00:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=2520s)

out for working people from what i can tell sanger said what he hoped to do was finish a respectable second here while concentrating on the more delegate rich states in next week's super tuesday primaries at the same time clinton staged a major effort here hoping that a big win will give him an insurmountable momentum going into those same primaries eric thanks kenley while voters in south carolina were casting their votes today the three leading democrats focused on super tuesday specifically on the important race in florida the topic of today's miami debate was health care each of the democrats has his own prescription for comprehensive health care reform yet all three found agreement on one thing they said that if president bush is reelected significant health care reform will not occur and as for the republican contest george bush and pat buchanan are going at it buchanan attacking the president the president not attacking his opponent at

least not directly each man knows that when the primaries are over they will have to make up for party unity john cochran shows us now what the two candidates were doing today president bush was still on the road but not on the campaign trail aides said today's stop at the pensacola naval air station was not political so taxpayers will pay for it in this military setting bush portrayed himself as uniquely well qualified to continue as commander-in-chief and blasted political rivals who want much deeper cuts in defense spending don't play political games with the national security of the united states of america bush spoke at a museum which houses his world war ii training records as a navy pilot his instructors rated his flying as average to above average but said he had trouble maintaining altitude he is having the same problem now trying to keep his popularity ratings up even so he called an early halt to his super tuesday campaigning and went fishing this afternoon in alabama bush decided another three days of campaigning would only make him look frantic and frazzled

00:44:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=2641s)

frantic and frazzled instead of confident and presidential but pat buchanan is not relaxing and today was hammering away in new orleans the bush campaign thinks buchanan could again break 30 percent in some super tuesday states even louisiana david duke's home state the former clan leaders campaign has stalled and duke now talks of getting out of politics voters upset with president bush have found buchanan a more respectable alternative bush hopes to win buchanan support eventually and today after jogging he again refused to accuse buchanan of racism and anti-semitism and when i speak out against hatred bigotry anti-semitism racism it's not aimed at anybody buchanan told nbc news that bush can forget about any reconciliation until after the final primary in june and the disagreements between the president and i on his new world order on his quota bills on his foreign aid bill are very very deep and they ought to be debated and fought out in the primary before there's any kind of reconciliation at that convention buchanan candidly admits he needs to win some state any state he says if the president loses just one state then the bush campaign will collapse the president's campaign aides say we will never know because buchanan will never get that one state he needs john cochran nbc news montgomery alabama more and the voters perhaps impatiently understandably have been waiting for it's called super tuesday and the numbers tell you why primaries will be held in eight states caucuses held in three other states for the democrats 783 delegates are at stake and when the results are in we should have a clearer picture of the presidential race and the field of candidates may already be getting somewhat clear or at least smaller andrew mitchell is in washington this evening good evening andrea good evening garrett soon it will be three after a dismal showing in south carolina tom harkin is expected to drop out tomorrow having failed to turn out the labor vote he needed to survive

00:46:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=2761s)

the labor vote he needed to survive almost out of money harkin had hoped to get a lift from south carolina textile workers he didn't he has told friends he will quit the race tomorrow giving up before the big michigan primary on march 17th propelled by his big victory in south carolina where he won 78 percent of the black vote bill clinton goes into super tuesday with a big head of steam the bible says where there is no vision that people perish together we can do it and i need your help on tuesday visiting two black churches in texas today he tried to build on his strong lead among minorities god bless you and thank you for your time paul songus was also in church today in tennessee it must be purpose and that's true in politics it must be purpose it's not just getting votes in south carolina song has received only four percent of the black vote a terrible result for anyone hoping to be the democratic nominee we are far behind the curve on this but you know i am a stranger the fact is that people need to know you as a human being it's not just a name in a paper it gets some feel for you in in the flesh and that's just a matter of time when they weren't praying this weekend the candidates were heaping abuse on each other songs on clinton much of what he said is simply untrue the issue of nuclear power is my first option is just a blatant lie clinton on songs i think that senator songz has changed his position since his election started a lot more than i have in the crucial state of florida they were also battling with negative commercials some people will say anything to be elected president now

bill clinton is distorting paul saugus's record on social security paul sanguis or bill clinton time magazine says much of what sanges proposes smacks of trickle-down economics another character issue arose today the new york times said clinton had invested in what sounded like a sweetheart deal

00:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=2880s)

in what sounded like a sweetheart deal investing with a savings and loan that clinton regulated as governor when i became governor again i think you can argue that i should have gotten out of it but frankly at the time it never crossed my mind because we were losing money the idea that you're in a business relationship with a someone you regulate i think is an error in judgment and clinton has to worry about jerry brown always on the attack bill clinton is the candidate of the politicians the hacks and the people who have been ripping us off for the last 10 years that's the truth song is competitive in florida but is conceding most of super tuesday to clinton the son of the south so it's likely nothing will be resolved until the big primaries in michigan and illinois next week thank you andrea mitchell and now lisa myers who has been looking at the republican contest lisa we know the pattern by now voters are sending president bush a message but is it due to the economy or bush himself derek this is overwhelmingly an economic protest vote right now voters are so upset over the economy that mickey mouse could pull 30 percent of the vote against george bush but voters also are frustrated with the president himself they're upset that he broke his promise not to raise taxes and they're upset that he seems not to have solutions to pressing national problems what george bush needs above all right now garrick is a message well that fact is then for bush this is a warning not for the primaries where he's going to beat buchanan and get the nomination but for the fall campaign for the presidency himself isn't it absolutely garrick one in eight republican voters in south carolina said they would not vote for the president in the fall he is losing among independents which no republican afford can afford to do and win moreover i think that the most worrisome thing for the president is that in state after state voters are saying we want change it's going to be very tough for someone who's been in office for four years to persuade them that he is the best person to bring about that change all right lisa myers thank you for being with us this evening well at this point in the primary race you might wonder why is there a super tuesday voting in 11 states on one

00:50:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3001s)

tuesday voting in 11 states on one single day let's get some answers from brad coker a political pollster who is with us this evening mr coker this is really an opportunity or an effort to get a large southern voice in the presidential selection especially the democratic party isn't it well it was designed in 1988 to give a southern moderate an edge in the early primaries and launch him uh to the nomination uh it backfired then because jesse jackson ran and drew off the black votes and al gore didn't get the boost out of super tuesday that he had hoped for but uh isn't this going to help bill clinton the son of the south then it's going to work in other words this time in 1992 well it looks that way clinton's running strong throughout the south uh primarily because he's getting the rural white and blue-collar southern voters and seventy-five to eighty percent of the black vote if you put that coalition together uh you're pretty dangerous in the south that will make them a more potent democratic candidate to come the fall wouldn't it it looks that way president bush has some problems in the south and the fact that he got under 70 percent of the vote in south carolina yesterday underscores it let's look at tom harkin who dropped out today the significance of that decision was expected to drop out tomorrow from the race he was a traditional liberal democrat and yet he really went nowhere how do you see that well i think the democrats are looking for to the future they were looking for a new message and i think tom harkin is probably the last of the old new new deal democrats all right thank you very much brad kocher for being with us this evening eve of the big one super tuesday 11 states for the democrats and in both parties more than a third of the delegates needed to win the nomination and two of the states are pivotal to the fall campaign florida and texas president bush is predicting a sweep for the republicans bill clinton is expected to win big for the democrats but paul songus and jerry brown will stay alive and tom harkin tonight is gone as he pulled out today the iowa senator offered to help whomever and so my fellow democrats i say to whomever our nominee is that i'll be there that i'll pay any price

00:52:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3120s)

price bear any burden learn to speak greek [Music] [Applause] develop a southern accent or learn to wear a turtleneck nbc's andrea mitchell is keeping track of what is now a three-man democratic race andrea how's it shaping up well tom it's a mad rush today not only for the delegate bonanza but also for tom harkin's disappointed labor supporters showing his super tuesday priorities bill clinton ignored the boston red sox at spring training in florida and donned a houston astros cap texas is much more important to him than massachusetts which he's conceding to paul songas but we both deal with fastballs and curves since we're doing baseball screwballs yeah well thank you but i'm afraid if i didn't got into that i would really put myself in trouble songs was also in florida battling clinton's big advantage in organization tomorrow's going to be very important tomorrow in florida there's going to be a message the choice is very clear between a machine and a message eleven states have caucuses or primaries tomorrow clinton is expected to sweep the south and southwest songus will likely win massachusetts in neighboring rhode island the only real contest is in florida where songs and clinton are playing to every ethnic minority targeting jewish voters clinton has been blanketing miami's condos with pamphlets criticizing songus for voting as a senator to send aid to syria furious sanges points out that all the jewish senators and israel supporters voted the same way as part of a peace initiative if bill clinton is going to run a campaign with this approach he's going to be president with this approach meanwhile harkin's withdrawal from the race leaves labor up for grabs

00:54:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3241s)

race leaves labor up for grabs clinton will benefit most but he's from a right to work state some labor leaders distrust him jerry brown is trying to overcome labor doubts about him i expect to be meeting with major labor leaders throughout the country and i'm going to get a lot of their support the one candidate with no labor support is songas in fact labor could try to block all of these candidates to see that none of those three candidates got enough delegates the first round and so that a separate candidate could in fact become the nominee labor's on the sidelines in tomorrow's voting but it is a big factor next week in illinois and michigan which is not good news for paul sangus tom thank you andre and if bill clinton does as well as he says he will tomorrow what about paul sagas where does he build a fire break down the road he tries to do well in illinois next week and in michigan then if he doesn't do well there he's in serious trouble but could still look toward the new york primary and then pennsylvania down the road he can discount tomorrow's voting because he can say it's the south it's clinton's home turf still a big prize however exactly a big delegate prize all right nbc's john cochran now is at the white house tonight where today the president said his strategy is to act not react john give us a translation of that tom even at this late date the president is still trying to appear unruffled by the buchanan challenge today the president was bragging about his south carolina when even though once again one in three voters said no to george bush i thought saturday was fantastic and i think we'll have a good day tomorrow but bush's aides are worried that he lacks a forceful message no such problem for pat buchanan the president has lost his clout with the congress he is not feared and bush can't seem to buy a favorable news story because of the widespread belief that he really meant it when he told david frost i will uh do what i have to do to be reelected case in point on saturday bush took part in a fishing tournament in alabama which does not hold its primary until june but the montgomery advertiser journal

00:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3361s)

but the montgomery advertiser journal insisted the trip was political anyway because fishing is an activity dear to hearts of swing voters the reagan democrats but today bush insisted critics don't bother him don't get irritated be pleasant and he couldn't have been more pleasant today when he spoke to officials from the national league of cities but they wanted some hard-nosed economic solutions instead they got a chat on family values family breakdown ultimately endangers our position in a world increasingly driven by economic competition i think there needs to be a more uh energetic approach to the way he gets his message across i think for many of the delegates it may not have been a complete message but tonight aides tell nbc news that president bush is considering a new strategy he would still go ahead with his veto of the democratic tax plan this month as expected but instead of just bashing congress he would consider small changes in his

own economic package he would then resubmit that to congress and try to sell this to the country he would say this is what leadership is all about tom john let's talk about super tuesday for just a moment as the president expect tomorrow that he'll continue to get that 30 protest vote against him even if he has a clean sweep he does indeed and they're also worried about michigan and illinois in the following week they don't think this thing is going to be over tomorrow night tom however they do feel confident enough they will probably send dan quayle out here at bush coil headquarters tomorrow night to claim a victory of sort good evening super tuesday 11 states for the democrats eight for the republicans most of them in the south and southwest crucial for the november election president bush expects a clean sweep tonight but he knows he won't get rid of pat buchanan not yet and for the democrats bill clinton went in as the heavy favorite and everything we're hearing from polls of voters and political experts what sounds like he won't be disappointed nbc's andrea mitchell is covering the democrats for us andrea tom in the biggest matchup of the election year bill clinton had every

00:58:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3480s)

election year bill clinton had every advantage over paul songas money organization and geography by the time they voted in florida today's toughest contest many people had been hearing about clinton for months he started organizing the state last november i do believe that in these states where i campaigned people were really beginning to be open to the message again tonight sagas was already conceding the south well florida is his home turf spent a lot of money a lot of negative advertising it worked in fact both sides spent about half a million dollars on advertising in florida much of it negative as in most states clinton was strong with working-class voters less educated voters and minorities because i'm democratic he about the only one that you know that's good paul sanges's supporters were better educated and mostly white songs i think he's a hybrid a republican democrat hybrid and that might help actually in the election but clinton scored by hitting hot button issues like social security in a state with so many older voters the clinton campaign distributed thousands of pamphlets citing incomplete reports of songus's position thrown off his message sangas was left complaining and explaining the impression that's being given is that i would do that across the board that's not true clinton also hammered zangas for supporting higher gas taxes a big issue in a state that depends on tourism raising the gas tax and nickel every year unrelated to roads would be very bad for this economy after tonight half the states will have voted and 40 percent of the pledged delegates will have been chosen but neither song is nor clinton have put together the winning coalition of traditional democrats and suburban independents needed for victory in the fall i don't intend to change this message a bit i'm going to take it into illinois michigan and see if it flies michigan illinois are neutral and we'll see what happens there jerry brown is already in michigan campaigning for next week's primary hoping his andy washington message will resonate with students and angry laid off auto workers and i'm here to fight the people who are

01:00:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3600s)

and i'm here to fight the people who are making it responsible it's the people in congress and the people in the white house the midwestern primaries will now be a big test for all three democrats especially songs he needs to prove he can hold his own against clinton once they're on neutral territory tom henry but that will take money what about the war chest for paul songus tonight running low and i think we'll be running lower after what we expect to be the results tonight it's going to be very hard for him to raise money and he is not popular with labor movement they have a lot to say about what happens in michigan and illinois all right thank you very much andrea mitchell tonight as for president bush he should sweep tonight but that pesky republican protest voted just won't go away nbc's john cochran is at the white house now john how's the president's mood tom for a man who's certainly is going to win every primary tonight the president is not in the best of moods meeting with republican congressional leaders bush refused to predict super tuesday results but as reporters were leaving he complained that even when he wins he loses it's weird a 40-point win isn't considered a victory i gotta know what the hell is going on but is the president really upset well i mean yes of course he's ticked off well let's let's be honest for a second i think he's very disciplined he's a very genial pleasant person but the truth is the primary backers of the buchanan campaign of the news media i mean the truth is if buchanan were not useful to the media you he would not be getting a ride i think

nudist is soft peddling this whole thing there is a growing suspicion in the country that people in the news media are concerned that if they don't have a race to cover then in the midst of a recession that you could be out of work buchanan also feels he is being mistreated not by the media but by party chairman rich bond last month bond a close friend of george bush was easygoing okay i have a lot of respect for pat buchanan and i treat that i treat that obligation on my part very seriously but two days ago bond accused buchanan of race-baiting but if he's going to

01:02:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3721s)

race-baiting but if he's going to basically hijack david duke's message on race and religious tolerance and put a jacket and tie on it and try to clean it up i'm just not comfortable with that today buchanan said bond had slandered him and the thousands of people who have voted for him people that george bush may need this fall on this i've said i will endorse mr bush in the fall if he wins the nomination i will support the candidate of my party but i'm not going to work for the party if mr bond is kept on as chairman bond will stay on and at this point bush aides are changing their minds about buchanan they had suspected buchanan was positioning himself for the 1996 nomination but now they think he is out to create all the trouble he can for the president they think he'll be around through the california primary tom and john given all of that how are they going to react to tonight's results well they're going to claim victory the president is going to say he's over the 700 delegate mark that this would put him over the halfway mark he needs about 1100 delegates to win the nomination what is important of course is not so much beating pat buchanan in the the primary race it's how he positions himself for the fall they're still very worried about the fall race around here tom and john if this is all the fault of the news media why is the president fired for example the administrator of the national endowment for the arts and changed his position on taxes and moved considerably to the right here in the past couple of weeks because pat buchanan has beat him up uh pretty hard in the around the white house they don't have a solid strategy yet for dealing with pat buchanan conservatives want the president to come out next week make a prime time nationwide address bash congress asked the nation to get behind him to help him fight congress the president is not so sure that is the prudent thing to do thank you very much john cochran at the white house tonight john chancellor is with me now he's been looking at what voters today were saying about why they made their choices and he's got some more on that for us tonight john tom we have about two-thirds in of our voter survey in eight states we find a great deal of uncertainty around the country among the democrats 40 percent of those who voted today have reservations about their candidates and we see that also with the republicans republicans say yes i voted

01:04:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3840s)

republicans republicans say yes i voted for him but i have my doubts 38 percent of buchanan voters 35 percent of bush voters are perhaps dissatisfied they say with their choices today voters uh george bush is killing pat buchanan on the issue of experience but bush's disapproval rating is still at 35 percent and that pattern is holding through these primaries voters did find george bush more articulate than pat buchanan but one in five said neither is making things very clear for bill clinton the draft charges the charges that he may have evaded the draft are having no effect that we can find today but he's building a powerful alliance in the south his black vote look at these numbers in the southern states florida 73 percent mississippi 79 la louisiana 87 percent of the black vote for clinton texas 84 percent we're also learning something about the constituencies of clinton and obsongus people with higher educations and incomes are for songus and one of our pollsters called them today democratic republicans older people less well to do people and members of minorities are for clinton and perhaps we can call them democratic democrats tom thank you very much john we'll see you later with no jesse jackson this time the role of blacks in this presidential campaign has not been nearly as conspicuous as it was four years ago so to get an idea of what a new generation of black voter is thinking i went to florida a m one of the nation's hot mostly black colleges florida a m is in tallahassee the state capitol and that political world is made to order for darrell parks florida a m's ambitious student body president who wants to lift himself out of the poverty of his family's life in florida's rural citrus industry florida has one of the most progressive student associations in terms of lobbying ellis gainey a drum major in a m celebrated marching band served in the persian gulf as an army reservist

01:06:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=3960s)

reservist christina samuels a senior journalism major she's the daughter of washington civil servants she misses a black candidate in this campaign when i open my paper in the morning and i see that there are no black candidates it makes me wonder what my life is going to be like when i graduate from college this black history museum is a centerpiece of the florida a m campus well the students here are very proud of their black heritage they're also very concerned about their future dr frederick humphries a m's president a lot of these kids uh uh are not as wedded to the democratic party uh as the blacks of my generation uh i mean is and was because uh they are looking to see if there is a return for the loyalty darrell parks agrees he likes clinton but he's willing to consider others for our generation we've seen a democrat do nothing for so long you started looking for a different type of avenue whether it's in the democratic party or republican party parks and genie are worried about their parents as well as their own future just hope that my mom does not lose her job you know and it goes in with my father as well you know the economy right now is in shambles but i think you know the thing is even when they're working right i know my mom could work 12 hours a day right and still not making enough money where she can live as comfortable as other people who work for a living do too in a political science class on the presidency a m students are following the campaign and the candidates closely what about jesse jackson you miss him oh particularly we missed jesse jackson but uh what is the charisma that he had to broke people together is missing in the race what do they think about all this talk of the middle class i feel as long as they're concerned with the domestic issues in america they've got my vote doesn't make any difference whether it's black or white no

01:08:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4081s)

black or white no i disagree when you talk about middle class and you're talking about cutting things like capital gains taxes and cutting certain taxes in order to make it easier to start a business what about those of us who aren't necessarily into wanting to start a business but just want to be able to go to work and underlying all of their economic worries the lifelong fact of racial discrimination christina samuels believes not even prosperity will end that we're still black you know no matter how middle class upper middle class we're still going to be black and we're still not going to be accepted but daryl parks isn't giving up he wants to go to law school and then he has a plan for so long um blacks the doors haven't really been opened because we weren't part of the golf course crew or that type of thing um so i mean you even found a lot of blacks playing golf now you know you know because we're determined to get out there and find out how this world work we've had so many defining moments in the last 18 months i've lost count but the race for the democratic presidential nomination this next week should be another one illinois and michigan after his big super tuesday win bill clinton is more than a third of the way home in the delegate count tonight and as for the republicans will party elders had a message for pat buchanan today nbc's andrea mitchell is with the democrats tonight john cochran is at the white house and andrea you're first up tom if possible the campaign is getting even meaner as the candidates faced off in the midwest it was a cocky bill clinton who rode into chicago today way ahead in delegates money and powerful friends and this person does have a vision he has a heart he has a commitment daley claims to be neutral but his organization is working hard for clinton and clinton even suggested that the mayor would be a good running mate i like my job i don't want to be very surprised paul sagas campaign seemed to be going nowhere just like his plane which veered off the runway and got stuck in the mud at chicago's midway

01:10:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4201s)

got stuck in the mud at chicago's midway airport no injuries except for the candidate's schedule in michigan in chicago song has tried to fix his dismal showing among blacks by visiting a vocational school wearing a baseball jacket and reviving his original message well look at these kids in the eye and tell them we're going to crush you with debt because they want to get elected is that what america is about one panda bear after another knowing this could be his last chance to derail clinton songus attacked him fiercely today and approved a new advertisement that gets personal he's no bill clinton that's for sure he's the exact opposite paul songus he's not afraid of the truth songus is trying to exploit the fact that despite clinton's strong

performance on super tuesday a quarter of the southern voters did not think clinton has the honesty and integrity to be president trying to fix that weakness clinton is bringing up the character issue himself sweet test of character is admitting your mistakes learning from them seeking forgiveness for them and going on in and doing better with your life the campaign is also showcasing his wife hillary today recalling her republican roots at her old high school in suburban chicago i was a goldwater girl i mean really we used to wear you know little banners which said goldwater girl and in a new ad clinton is doing what worked in florida putting songs on the defensive over social security cuts and cost of living increases for older americans but that's misleading songs book does not propose definite cuts in social security sanguis does need to counteract that message if he's going to stop clinton's drive toward the nomination tom thank you andrea now john cochran at the white house where today the president seemed to be more in control of his campaign following his big super tuesday win john tom the president held his first formal news conference here since january as he tried to look presidential instead of like just another politician scrambling for votes

01:12:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4320s)

while buchanan was steaming around michigan accusing bush of being soft on taxes bush was shoring up his defenses until today bush had hinted he might accept a sur tax on millionaires if the democrats lower taxes on capital gains today bush said no taxes period i don't want to raise taxes buchanan warned sure that's what he says now he'll make all kinds of promises i'm not going to sign a tax bill never again never double cross you folks again until this campaign is hammered down and he's got freedom to do what he wants to do buchanan says he is keeping bush honest by staying in the race but how long can buchanan stick it out he says he has a fighting chance in michigan a state hard hit by auto layoffs but at times he seemed to see the end of the road listen if the time ever comes to exit we will do it gracefully that time is not now buchanan got a gentle shove today from richard nixon the former president may not like bush's modest aid package to russia but nixon could always count and he thinks his former aide pat buchanan can count too i think now he's got to realize that we're down to a point where it's going to be a contest between president bush and governor clinton and the question is would he prefer clinton to bush his answer is going to be no and i think we will probably see that now pat buchanan will probably find a way to support president bush earlier rather than later but that support will have strings attached late today buchanan demanded a prominent role at the republican convention this summer we still have a ways to go on our own election but john chancellor has been keeping track of this campaign john you're right tom here is what's happened so far in the presidential campaign of 1996 yes 1996. it's going on now the first candidate in the field is mr patrick buchanan who's doing quite well for a fellow who can't win this year just yesterday he got more than 700 000

01:14:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4442s)

just yesterday he got more than 700 000 super tuesday votes what makes pat run well 1996 could be a year of opportunity for an ambitious republican the party's presidential nomination will be up for grabs so will the job of chief republican philosopher today no one knows what being a republican means cold war anti-communism had held the party together but that's over and party warfare is breaking out everywhere george bush is being sniped at by richard nixon snubbed by ronald reagan and pat buchanan is stealing about 30 percent of the president's voters in 1996 when the republican candidates are debating buchanan will ask the others where were you four years ago when i was out fighting for the soul of the party he will call dan quayle jack kemp and dick cheney lap dogs of the national establishment who conspired with liberals to impoverish the middle class that might work especially if the economy doesn't improve much in the next four years i had thought buchanan would have made a graceful exit by now proclaiming his loyalty to the republican party but it looks as though he'll stay on for a while longer the first campaigner of the 1996 election tom thank you john president bush was out campaigning today and so were his opponents buchanan and michigan congress and brown and illinois and bill clinton visited both states voters in both states also are seeing new commercials that are nastier than ever nbc's lisa myers tonight with a viewer's guide while bill clinton preached to baptist ministers in detroit he was hammering paul tsongas in illinois with an ad that's misleading how much do you know about paul songus's economic plan page 22 he proposes another capital gains tax

cut for the rich page 21 cuts and costs of living increases for older americans that's misleading because songs plan talks only about looking at cuts in cost of living increases and he says any future changes in social security or

01:16:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4560s)

any future changes in social security or medicare would affect only the wealthy on medicare i believe that if you have someone who makes more than 125 000 i should start contributing more to the medicare funding clinton's ad fails to mention that clinton would consider the same thing i have for example said on the medicare making people with very high levels of income pay higher monthly medicare premiums i would entertain that paul tsongas also is plain rough his new ad could have been written by the republicans what is bill clinton got to hide that's really bad what now it's his record and arkansas and governor of arkansas 12 years and i read in the paper he increased the tax on gas the ad seems to attack clinton's record but roger ailes who used to be george bush's media guru says that it also reminds voters of allegations of womanizing and draft dodging the first 10 seconds of it create innuendo through innuendo a sense that oh we have more bad news for you about bill clinton in the republican slugout in michigan pat buchanan's new ad suggests auto workers lost their jobs because george bush's advisors sold out to the japanese bush strategist charles r black registered agent firm represented japanese official the president's commercials portray buchanan as a hypocrite pat buchanan it's america first in his political speeches but a foreign-made car in his driveway the bush ad will probably work better because it directly in a simple way directly undercuts the essence of the buchanan argument to a large extent these ads are the campaign in illinois and michigan it is negative and it is nasty lisa myers nbc news washington and finally this evening george bush lashes out he goes for pap buchanan's jugular you say you missed that true the president has been remarkably kind and gentle in dealing with his republican opponent it said he does not want to offend buchanan's conservative supporters come november

01:18:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4681s)

supporters come november but now in michigan the presidential gloves have come off and the bush campaign has made its most personal attack against buchanan a tv commercial charging him with driving a mercedes the president of course could attack buchanan for his use of the america first theme with its discredited echoes from the past he could ask his opponent how his call for greater isolationism would exactly strengthen our standing in the world and he could directly challenge the racial and ethnic attitudes evident in pat buchanan's view of the changing complexion of the united states what buchanan once called quote a multicultural landfill the president could do that but doesn't instead he attacks buchanan for driving a mercedes now in the home state of gm ford and chrysler that may earn him some political mileage but does it add to presidential stature or the sense of a strong confident leader and truth be told the bush commercial does not do full justice to pat buchanan's taste for cars yes he drives a mercedes but he also owns a cadillac and that's our look at our world this day join us tomorrow morning for sunday today followed by meet the press i'm garrett gutley good night for nbc news officially the presidential primary trail has more than two months to run but in fact the race for the democratic nomination could be all but over after the voting on tuesday in illinois and michigan if and the name of that big if is bill clinton if he wins in both states it will be hard for his opponents to stop in chicago andrew mitchell is following the campaign andrea garrick boosted by his super tuesday victories bill clinton is far ahead in the midwest paul tsongas is faltering and jerry brown might produce a big surprise it was a day for ethnic politics chicago style the candidates ported so many different ethnic groups it's a wonder they didn't try to eat their shamrocks and wear their bagels i'm a bagel freak the giant bagel was squeezed between visits to black

01:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4800s)

squeezed between visits to black churches targets of opportunity for all three candidates you're very kind to have me here on such a wonderful day and if i don't become president i'm going to run for bishop i need your help god bless you so far this year black turnout has been low but those who have voted have chosen clinton

brown went after clinton today on civil rights and his labor record you can hug all the ministers you want and they can hug you back but as long as you're encouraging the fast track to move jobs to mexico it's not going to do anything for the people of this community brown has been tapping into the anger of frightened auto workers in michigan labor is suspicious of songs who won't change his pro-business message even when meeting with laid off workers we need something to solve the problem now not for five or six years down the road well let me tell you there are no magic bullets sanguis also opposes one of labor's top priorities in congress legislation to stop strikers from being replaced it's one reason why songs could slip behind brown in michigan even though i had a 90 labor record it's what have you done for me lately clinton has some union endorsements but others are suspicious of his record in arkansas a right to work state giving brown an opening but if that's all they call me i'm much more electable than mr bill clinton will ever be some powerful michigan leaders are trying to stop clinton by supporting brown or remaining uncommitted but so far clinton seems headed for big victories in michigan and illinois in politics money follows power when george bush decided it was time to build his campaign war chest last year he raised a whopping 10 million dollars in only two months a big chunk of it at this dinner in houston an analysis by nbc news in usa today shows the bush like many presidents is raising lots of money from fat

01:22:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=4920s)

raising lots of money from fat cats last year 76 percent of bush's money came in one thousand dollar contributions while challenger pat buchanan got only 26 percent of his money from big givers on the democratic side the favor of fat cats was bill clinton who got 41 percent of his war chest and one thousand dollar contributions compared to 31 percent for paul tsongas a close look at the campaign records of all the candidates also reveals that more than half the contributors are not disclosing their occupations or employers as required by law the key tenant of campaign finance law is disclosure of who pays for campaigns and how much and without the employer identification information we really don't know who the individuals are who are supporting particular campaigns still we can conclude one thing with the possible exception of jerry brown everyone is receiving money from special interests certainly troubling to the american public who sense that elected officials are more responsive to those who pay for their campaign clinton in particular has reason to be grateful he already has raised twice as much money as songus and now that he looks like a winner the money is pouring in a lot of the traditional people have offered their services now and want to be involved in the winning campaign anyone who says money isn't everything should talk to paul songas who has little of it money enabled bill clinton to pay for the organization and tv ads that helped do heavy damage to songus last week and may all but put him away on tuesday lisa myers nbc news washington this is nbc nightly news with tom brokaw reporting tonight from nbc news headquarters in new york good evening illinois and michigan two powerful midwestern industrial states and tonight it appears their friendly territory for bill clinton and for president bush political experts in both states expect big wins for both men in those two primaries and that could mean a clinton bush matchup for the fall

01:24:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5040s)

matchup for the fall nbc's andrea mitchell is in chicago tonight she'll begin with the democrats andrea tom the other candidates say they're not going away but after tonight the nomination is bill clinton's to lose on a cold election day in the nation's heartland bill clinton proved he's not just a southern candidate i'm planning for the next round working for the next round you know this never ends it seems like so uh today we're looking ahead to connecticut to new york into the states behind clinton appealed strongly to traditional democrats not only blacks but also the white working-class voters who abandoned the party a dozen years ago paul sanguis's message of economic sacrifice did not connect with people suffering from the recession in michigan where he never took off his union jacket jerry brown worked hard to win support from white auto workers people who are angry and fed up with washington we're running to take this government back it's not working the people of michigan field have been ripped off and lied to they want their jobs brown strength in michigan is a major blow to songus after losing the south he had said the midwest was neutral territory that he could win today he said clinton still has problems that make him unelectable there's something sitting in people's minds that i think the democrats better start thinking about so my task is to stay in this to the

convention to be there as the alternative in fact clinton has proved himself to be remarkably resilient he was counted out after jennifer flowers a lot of you told me to hang in here in the last couple of days and how rough all this is and again after the controversy over the draft i will continue to fight like hell to put this campaign back on the real issues he managed to come back through money organization and his skills as a strong campaigner but sangus is still hoping to trip him up and jerry brown vows to keep up his aggressive campaign his opponents won't let up but clinton has proved that he can take a pounding and remain standing tom thank you andrea and bill clinton's arkansas is also home to one of

01:26:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5161s)

arkansas is also home to one of america's richest men that's sam walton the walmart founder is a clinton contributor his wife hillary clinton is on the walmart board but it was george bush in arkansas today presenting walton with a medal of freedom walton who is now 73 years old and suffering from bone cancer built his multi-billion dollar empire from a single store 40 years ago bush called today's visit to clinton's country purely non-political now standing by at the white house is nbc's john cochran john what's the political strategy there to reach out to the buchanan forces now or to just write them off tom the president said again today he thinks he and buchanan can still patch it up but it all depends on buchanan who will hold a news conference here in washington tomorrow morning and for now it looks like buchanan will hold on for a while he says he may key on the north carolina primary in may and then in california in june he also says he will limit himself to advancing his conservative political agenda and will halt the political personal attacks on george bush if that's the case buchanan could still stay in the race and you could see a reconciliation and plenty of time for the republican convention this summer john the fact is andrea just reported bill clinton now has taken a full frontal assault week after week and yet he's still standing does that cause some nervousness at the white house yes but andrea also reported that bill clinton has plenty of money and an organization and pat buchanan has precious little of either and it showed in michigan much of the advance work for his campaign was amateurish it showed you can get by with that in a small state like new hampshire but not in michigan or illinois tom thank you very much uh john cochran at the white house tonight and tonight as he does every primary night our commentator john chancellor is here with a report on why the voters made the choices they did today and he's still going over his notes from a hot computer tom two-thirds of our sample is in in michigan and illinois the buchanan protest vote is down it has been running at about one-third it's now down to about one-fourth the president's job rating is remains unchanged about 30 percent of

01:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5280s)

unchanged about 30 percent of our voters disapproved of him but he does win on experience there is however a great deal of uneasiness in michigan and illinois we find that in in among republicans in michigan 38 percent have uneasiness about reservations about their vote and in illinois it's the same 38 percent have reservations and this is true in both parties we find it equally among the democrats when we look at democrats among michigan 39 percent of them are not sure they cast the right vote today and in illinois it's 43 percent who are unsure it was our polls indicate a good day for bill clinton voters think honesty is important and he's winning in that category he is also putting together the old democratic coalition we see that in michigan where low-income voters are going 55 percent for for clinton black voters in michigan 70 percent for him he is winning moderate and conservative democrats in both states part of the old coalition clinton and illinois low-income voters 60 percent black voters 75 percent why is jerry brown doing taking strength from songs in michigan he's doing well with better educated higher income union workers and liberals and that's pant my report thank you very much john chancellor yoma's duty no rap tonight however a little disappointed in that primaries in the polls show the voters are looking for similar qualities in their politicians american voters are in a restless mood and that's bad news for incumbents who don't measure up nbc's andrea mitchell tonight on the cautionary lessons of the illinois primary andrea tom incumbent's got more than a wake-up call from the voters there are alarm bells going off all over washington [Applause] the biggest surprise was carol mosley braun a local chicago official who won the democratic senate nomination in illinois without money or support from most women's groups they thought she didn't have a chance this democracy is alive and well and

01:30:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5401s)

this democracy is alive and well and ordinary people can have a voice with no money she defeated two-term senator alan dixon a 43-year veteran of party politics i had a wonderful public life braun decided to run because of the way the senate treated anita hill dixon voted in favor of clarence thomas's nomination the people have the right to know mr president the people have the right to know dixon was also damaged by a brutal ad campaign from a multi-millionaire businessman the third candidate in the race dixon lied support for the senator eroded further last week after the house check bouncing scandal became public voters did not make a distinction between senators and congressmen the winning edge came from women many angry about dixon's vote for clarence thomas republican women in the suburbs even asked for democratic ballots to vote for her the first black woman nominated by a major party to run for the senate also kicked out chicago congressman charles hayes who admits bouncing 716 checks and the end of the road for one of congress's most controversial members gus savage he went out with a vintage attack and to the racist and reactionary or misleaders the winner against savage mel reynolds a former rhodes scholar still wearing a bandage from injuries suffered last week during a drive-by shooting reynolds had lost twice before to savage this time redistricting hurt savage by adding better educated suburban voters to the district it's still early in the primary season and six incumbents are out 34 other members have seen the warning signs and decided to quit tom thank you andrea one politician who didn't quit when the going got tough is the leader now of the democratic pact chasing the presidential nomination that of course is arkansas governor bill clinton the big winner in illinois and michigan a well-practiced politician who can go with the flow nbc's lisa myers the man draped in flags

01:32:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5520s)

nbc's lisa myers the man draped in flags last night in chicago was the old bill clinton moderate a disciple of the new politics we don't want anybody to have something for nothing anymore not the ceos of our biggest companies not the workers in our plant not the students in our schools we want opportunity and responsibility this clinton denounces what he calls the brain-dead politics of both parties no more division by race no more division by income no more class warfare no more what then who was that man a couple of weeks ago denouncing his opponent as a friend of the rich senator song said he wanted to be the best friend wall street ever had and who ran this ad and making the rich pay their fair share bill clinton he'll put people first that's bill clinton the populist sounding a lot like tom harkin there's also another clinton the one who appeared in florida doing an imitation of walter mondale with unbridled appeals to special interests mr president quit pushing israel around in public and never saying anything about the arabs he's gone to the moderate side with the democratic leadership council and then he's gone to the harkins side and he's gone with the populist message so that's a tremendous part of the spectrum that he's gone through and there's another clinton change of tune at first he sounded like a tight wad we need to give people a sense that there's some discipline and some restraint in spending but along the campaign trail he's come up with a long list of goodies for just about everyone among them a national apprenticeship program college loans for everybody tax cuts for the middle class and the poor and more an investment tax credit a new business tax credit a low income housing tax credit a research and development tax credit energy conversion tax credits changes in the real estate rules for people that are investing in this economy i'm all for that some cite clinton's flexibility is proof that he's a formidable politician among others it reinforces the nickname slick willie

01:34:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5641s)

slick willie he's become a creature of what the political system says he needs to be to win that if he has a political ideology it's very well hidden not long ago george bush said he'd do whatever it takes to get elected in bill clinton he may meet his match lisa myers nbc news washington bill clinton has now won almost half the delegates he needs to get the democratic presidential nomination he has confronted and survived more crises this year than most politicians face in a lifetime the jennifer flowers scandal questions about his draft status during the vietnam war and an inaccurate accusation that he funneled state money to his wife's law firm this man can take a hit martin nolan of the boston globe called him the razorback rasputin nolan wrote

he's been shot stabbed and electrocuted and set a fire yet he keeps on coming so why are paul tsongas and jerry brown still in the race well the headlines about clinton's problems give them some hope a lot of voters have developed doubts about clinton's character because of those stories and many politicians are wondering if another shoe may drop a high heeled shoe in this year's jargon another accusation about clinton's personal life that would make him quit there's no reason to believe this will happen but two groups hope that it will his opponents for the nomination and some influential democrats who don't like any of the candidates and who want a brokered convention in the meantime bill clinton keeps on winning while his enemies wait for something to knock him off they don't think clinton will stumble but another scandal might do the job i've been covering this stuff for 40 years and i've never seen a year in which the hope of scandal played such an important role good evening from washington paul songus the professorial greek american from massachusetts with a bottom line economic message is out of the democratic presidential race tonight

01:36:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5760s)

tonight just one month after his new hampshire triumph that leaves the front-runner bill clinton and jerry brown who's become the energizer rabbit of this campaign nbc's andrea mitchell tonight on what all this means andrea tom in the end the man with the message ran out of money and was forced to suspend his unorthodox campaign paul songas left the campaign trail as he'd entered it with self-deprecating humor and a sense of mission i believe the force of our message and our shared survival has caused people all over this country to see a new path song is called bill clinton now the commanding favorite for the nomination he reaffirmed his commitment to trying to win the white house in november and trying to defeat george bush clinton still has to dispatch jerry brown who portrays himself as a revolutionary and refuses to quit it was just over a year ago when songhus began his quest to redefine the democratic party george bush was at 90 percent in the polls no other democrat wanted to challenge him in new hampshire song is prescribed unpopular economic medicine if you cannot for a middle-class tax cut people will think that's great i said to him i know that but it's terrible economics and he won in new hampshire but bill clinton stole the thunder by coming out first to proclaim his second place finish new hampshire tonight has made bill clinton the comeback kid clinton's money organization and energy began to wear songs down instead of sticking to his message he resorted to stunts to combat clinton's attacks losing florida cost him money and momentum going into crucial primaries in the midwest again clinton out campaigned him appealing to working-class voters into blacks as songus never could zangas was strong with swing voters independents suburbanites but even in his backyard connecticut he couldn't connect with traditional democrats you say it's going to take time to implement these plans but what

01:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=5880s)

time to implement these plans but what do i do to survive in the interim today party leaders began falling in behind clinton party so i'm pleased that the process looks like it is beginning to come to an end and that we will have a nominee that that we can rally around with song is out of the race clinton can now reach out to the swing voters who like songus and are essential to winning in the fall tom thank you andrea and senator songus is with us now from his hometown in lowell massachusetts tonight senator senator what didn't work your message or your style well it's not the message i think the message was very powerful i mean we were dismissed when we began this a year ago and the only reason i survived this far and one of the states that i did was because of the message but obviously the maybe the messenger wasn't the perfect messenger but the message was right and the fact is that the democrats are going to have to adopt and embrace that message if they want to take on and defeat george bush in november you heard that questionnaire in connecticut in andrea mitchell's spot saying what do i do in the meantime you did have a message of short-term pain for long-term gain that's pretty hard to sell in a presidential campaign isn't it it's pretty hard to sell but you know you've got a generation coming along to him that will not be well served by the politics that we're espousing here and the fact is if we don't get serious about making some choices and we're just going to squander this country and say to our kids well good luck to you and i don't think i mean when we campaign those last few days in michigan and in illinois and talk to students the students of this country i think are going to surprise people there's a generation out there that will be motivated because they

understand the threat this country is under both economically socially environmentally and i must say that gave me great confidence at the end of this campaign that in fact there is a generation coming along that is prepared to be less self-centered than the reagan bush generation which we are all part of senator uh your staff tells us that you're quite tired is your health okay my health my health is fine it's my pocketbook that we're having trouble with we simply

01:40:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6001s)

that we're having trouble with we simply ran out of the resources necessary to compete in new york no i'm going to swim in the nationals in may both in north carolina and in florida so you can judge at that point my health is fine thank you very much senator paul sangus tonight from lowell massachusetts now with his commentary from new york on the democratic presidential race john tom and then there were two bill clinton and jerry brown brown is the one with the 800 number who has set a limit of 100 on campaign contributions he says he's fighting for the little guy against a political system corrupted by big money he says big contributions are wrong well that's a huge change in jerry brown's position two and a half years ago he was asked so you want more money in political campaigns and he said yes according to the san francisco chronicle brown was then fighting against limits on contributions california had passed a campaign reform law which set a limit of a thousand dollars on individual contributions brown was state chairman of the democratic party and he opposed limits on contributions to the party he and other politicians challenged the law in court and won the chronicle story says this reopened the floodgates of special interest money in california politics when brown was asked about this by the chronicle he said the law limiting contributions was an assault on the first amendment which wouldn't in any case have limited the influence of big contributors he also said of his work as party chairman and i quote when you're in the fish factory all day you don't realize you smell brown never talks about this as he crusades against special interests people who give him nickels and dimes don't know that not long ago he was arguing for bigger bucks in presidential campaigns jerry brown is a man who has reinvented himself before and he has reinvented himself again election night on super tuesday the networks are all waiting for the winning candidate but first his wife appeared not just to introduce him but to give her own speech

01:42:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6121s)

introduce him but to give her own speech we believe passionately in this country and we cannot stand by for one more year and watch what is happening to it hillary rodham clinton has been front and center a full partner since she first met bill clinton in law school on the campaign trail she's a major draw from suburban synagogues i really was raised believing we could do better than we are to union halls the option that my mother had to stay home and be there for me and my brothers is gone for most women but even in an age when other candidates wives have full-time careers this political wife is something different you know i suppose i could have stayed home and baked cookies and had teas but what i decided to do was to fulfill my profession which i entered before my husband was in public life worried that she had offended homemakers campaign aides rushed her outside to do some damage control she is controversial the first candidate's wife to be targeted in a political debate he is funneling money to his wife's law firm for state business that's number one you ought to be ashamed of yourself for jumping on my wife you're not worth being on the same platform i'll tell you something mr clinton it is not yet clear how voters especially women will react to hillary clinton's high campaign profile i just think it shows her support of him you know after everything that he went through with the flowers woman yeah i think it'll probably help him she's a very strong character i think it depends on how she presents herself i have to say mrs bush is such a lady and i think the first lady of our country needs to be a lady at all times the clinton campaign is embarking on a high wire act trying to attract voters who can relate to hillary clinton without alienating all the rest andrea mitchell nbc news washington tonight is the eve of the connecticut presidential primary and there's a spirited debate about the future of a big defense contract in that economically troubled state but this time the roles are reversed nbc's andrea mitchell tonight on the three billion dollar question andrea tom you could call it submarine

01:44:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6242s)

andrea tom you could call it submarine warfare the fight between bill clinton and george bush over whether to build the new sea wolf submarine support bill clinton only candidate one seal clinton was at the plant gate at electric boat in groton at the crack of dawn greeting thousands of workers who would lose their jobs if push's budget cuts are approved he's fighting for us say hello governor bill clinton on friday bush demanded that congress cancel two new submarines claiming they were congressional pork even though the administration had fought for the subs in every budget until now in interviews today with connecticut television stations the president called it part of the peace dividend part of the benefit to the american taxpayer from the victories that we've won abroad are the is the fact that we can now substantially reduce defense spending clinton has called for cutting twice as much from defense as bush but not the seawall clinton says not because he's pandering to connecticut voters but because when it's time to build the next generation of smaller cheaper submarines it would be too costly to start from scratch most everybody i talked to said that it would be about as inexpensive to do that as it would be to shut this line down throw thousands of people out of work and figure out how to start it up again in a few years some independent analysts disagree with clinton's mass if you build those two boats you're going to have to operate and support them for 20 or 30 years that's very expensive jerry brown would cut even more from defense than clinton but not on the eve of the connecticut primary keeping if i can find generals that can show us a way to build a diesel-powered submarine or whatever it takes we'll do it and we're going to make sure those workers keep their income so the cold war may be over but not the political wars over defense spending not when canceling weapons means losing jobs tom thanks andrea many americans of course are saying this year they wish someone else for running for president well someone else is thinking about it as an independent candidate h ross perot the texas billionaire who likes to speak his mind and take action nbc's lisa myers tonight h ross perot

01:46:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6362s)

nbc's lisa myers tonight h ross perot insists he does not want to be president calls it the most miserable job in the world so why run this self-made billionaire claims it's because he knows how to fix the economy if you want your car fixed you go get a first class mechanic you don't get you know somebody selling aluminum siding now that's that's washington right now and that's the reason none of these problems get addressed they just don't know what to do equating the president of the united states and top democrats with aluminum siding salesmen is hardly diplomatic but that's part of perot's appeal politically he's conservative and unpredictable he favors denying social security and medicare to rich folks a strategic plan to save key industries and taking away congress's power to raise taxes or their salaries and plain texas talk it's time to take out the trash and clean out the barn or it's going to be too late you can see why perrault captures some people's imagination during the vietnam war he chartered planes to send food and packages to american pows the movie on wings of eagles dramatized his 1979 rescue mission of two employees taken hostage in iran now he says he'll spend 50 to 100 million dollars of his own money to run for president if enough ordinary americans signed petitions to put his name on the ballot in all 50 states that's a tall order to be sure but a spokesman claims his toll-free number in dallas gets 2 000 calls an hour perot's name already is on the ballot in tennessee and this weekend voters in texas signed petitions to get him on the ballot there his ace in the hole widespread voter anger and disgust i've had enough of this bureau bureaucracy in this political bs but parole also must face political reality independent candidates never have done well in presidential elections there's no viable chance of him beating george bush or beating bill clinton there is a viable chance that he could get 10 percent of the vote and that could determine who is elected president

01:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6480s)

could determine who is elected president if parole runs he's likely to take more votes from bush than from clinton which is why all this makes the white house very nervous lisa myers nbc news washington with tom brokaw reporting tonight from pittsburgh good evening from pittsburgh where tonight i'll be participating in a town meeting here on wpxi on crack and drug abuse in this area there are a lot of concerned citizens here and in connecticut today there were a lot of angry unhappy voters that tiny northeastern state is in a full-scale rebellion against higher taxes a depressed real estate market and high unemployment brought on by the

recession and defense industry cutbacks nbc's andrea mitchell is with us now and andrea a big protest today in the connecticut presidential primary yes tom bill clinton had wanted to finish jerry brown off in connecticut but it's now clear that the protest vote there is large and brown is getting more than his share clinton's own polls had shown him in a tough fight with brown something he acknowledged today seriously if he does well you'll have to look into him and then we'll beat it just like what happened before all the warning signs had indicated brown would get a strong protest vote connecticut we're going to shock the establishment and we're going to keep this campaign moving all the way back here to the convention in fact nearly three out of four connecticut voters including many who didn't vote for brown told us today they agreed with his criticism of the political system in the last few days clinton had cancelled time off in arkansas to campaign in connecticut his greatest fear the protest vote for brown and paul sangas still on the ballot would come out while his supporters stayed home don't let anybody take this primary for granted brown kept telling voters that they had the power to stop clinton from running away with the nominations pick up time they're going to crowd him this week he's being knighted and anointed like some medieval pope brown even paid for a television advertisement unusual for his low budget

01:50:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6602s)

advertisement unusual for his low budget campaign washington politicians have picked bush and clinton they want to silence us so they can keep power for themselves he hammered away at clinton's greatest weakness questions about his integrity often repeating charges that had not even been proved the newspapers keep bringing out more and more stuff and i guess we'll find out just how deep it goes as the weeks go on in a bad sign for clinton connecticut voters were evenly split when asked today about clinton's character people have a lot of questions about bill clinton if they're worried about bill clinton then jerry brown's candidacy becomes very important clinton still has a huge lead over brown and delegates but the next primaries are in new york and wisconsin states in which a protest candidate like brown could be a real threat tom thank you andrea and it turns out not only the voters are fed up today republican senator warren rudman of new hampshire announced that he would not run for re-election in large part because no one is dealing with the hard decisions about what to do about the deficit the blame for letting this situation get out of hand is shared maybe not totally equally but shared by the president the previous president and the congress and to some extent the american people for not being realistic and understanding that we are facing a problem that to a large extent is caused by their unwillingness to make any personal sacrifice at all very from john chancellor who has been studying the possible alternatives in this presidential election year john tom h ross perot is the billionaire businessman who is thinking of running for president he has an 800 number for calls from people offering to help now hear this yesterday evening in one half hour period 32 000 calls were made to the ross perot phone number thirty two thousand in half an hour more than a thousand calls a minute the people at mci who handled these calls tell me they've never seen anything like it this has been a good year for political insurgents

01:52:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6720s)

political insurgents pat buchanan came from nowhere and gave president bush a hard time jerry brown came from nowhere and is still in the democratic primaries 1992 produced a lot of unhappy voters the polls taken in the primaries show that 40 percent of the democrats and 36 percent of the republicans had reservations about their votes insurgents and third-party candidates turn up every few elections but this year has a different look i think the voters are running out of patience this recession hasn't been as bad as the one ten years ago but it seems worse the us congress has been a situation comedy for years but suddenly it looks worse most americans have seen their real incomes decline for a long time but right now it feels worse a lot of chickens are coming home to roost this year and i think that's one reason why 32 000 people tried to reach ross perot in one 30 minute period last night something is going on jerry brown's narrow defeat of bill clinton in connecticut last night has shaken up things and even if clinton succeeds in his march toward the nomination he certainly was sent a message nbc's andrew mitchell from washington what happens now katie connecticut voters told bill clinton not so fast raising the stakes as he now faces some of the country's most skeptical voters new yorkers i'm coming back hi after stumbling in connecticut clinton canceled a fundraising

trip to texas and went straight to the staten island ferry rush hour commuters were about as enthusiastic about clinton as people in connecticut had been only 24 percent of the democrats there even bothered to vote 58 wanted someone else in the race even worse 48 said clinton does not have the honesty and integrity to be president but it said the voters had questions about it how could they not they've heard the worst they don't know me well his weakness is that he has yet to appeal to my mother that's very important yeah my mother uh speaks for a lot of people the news magazines had anointed clinton as the nominee the kiss of death in a

01:54:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6840s)

as the nominee the kiss of death in a year when people are looking for an outsider if it's david against goliath that slingshot's getting pretty big and pretty heavy jerry brown was back on the attack today exaggerating clinton's record to a labor audience in philadelphia i want you to compare the record of a right-to-work union-busting scav-inviting wage depressing environmental disaster governor versus a labor governor with somebody on your side in turn clinton ripped into brown's flat tax proposal realizing he had not challenged it effectively in connecticut it's like so much of what's been said in this campaign sounds great sounds simple makes things worse connecticut voters were angry because of lost jobs in a state tax rebellion but new york has its own special challenges like the governor courted today by brown doing no favors for clinton he doesn't have it locked up certainly connecticut indicated that but there is no question in my opinion that he is in the lead clinton now has to campaign against brown instead of bush a big headache for the democrats good news for the white house are you pleased with how the democratic race is shaping up front runners have stumbled in connecticut before and recovered but it's hard to recall a year when voters have been this angry and unpredictable katie andrea is it too late for anyone else to get into the democratic race well pretty much despite a great deal of dissatisfaction it's late for anyone else to get in clinton has almost half the delegates needed to secure the nomination he's expected to get the endorsement tomorrow of his former opponent senator tom harkin which could help him with labor so you think he's unstoppable despite the connecticut stumble well i'm not so sure as we saw in connecticut the support for clinton is very soft party leaders are still very nervous and as mario cuomo said so unhelpfully today if jerry brown were to win in new york and then in california that would change things okay andrea mitchell thank you so much true the connecticut turnout was very light and the exit polls showed that none of the above probably could have beaten brown or clinton

01:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=6961s)

beaten brown or clinton but right now the angry voters are rallying behind jerry brown nbc's lisa myers tonight he's been called the pied piper a protest and the political equivalent of a drive-by shooting he's both and right now he may have the hottest message in politics government has been subject to a hostile takeover of elites thousand dollar donors and lobbyists of people who can insulate themselves from the consequences of our own failure 92 percent of brown's voters agreed with him that the political system is corrupt voting for brown wasn't let them know that i'm not it's like the movie network i'm sick and tired of it i'm not going to put up with it anymore i'm uh pretty sick and tired of hearing about all the czech scandal in washington that anger and alienation is what propelled brown to victory with many deciding at the last minute others are driven by a strong dislike of clinton i do not trust clinton he's a typical smiling politician that reminds me of the evangelist only about a third of those who voted for brown actually want him to be president i think jerry brown has some character but what jerry brown actually stands for seems to change for example today he preaches the evils of big contributions i'm only taking no more than a hundred dollars from any american citizen because i want this campaign to be owned by you but only two years ago while chairman of the california democratic party brown helped kill contribution limits in that state brown claims his current conversion is genuine but others say he's changed colors many times all politicians have to have some chameleon-like aspects but i would say that jerry brown pushes the chameleon definition to the limits another contradiction brown betrays himself as the champion of the little guy yet his flat tax would cut taxes on the rich and increase them for everyone else for

01:58:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7080s)

and increase them for everyone else for brown to say that a flat tax would be a good deal for the middle class is either crazy or a lie jerry brown has made a career of reading voters minds he did it on the environment in the 70s and seems to be doing it again this year trouble is voters seem more enthralled with the message than the messenger lisa myers nbc news washington as for president bush he made it 17-17 winning easily in connecticut's republican presidential primary scoring better than 2-1 against patrick buchanan presidential candidates campaigned hard in new york state today the next major round of primaries in new york and wisconsin april 7th could establish arkansas governor bill clinton as the presumptive nominee or it could lead the democratic race in turmoil and now there's talk of a brokered convention more from nbc's andrea mitchell campaigning from one photo opportunity to another in new york state today bill clinton has enough problems to raise anyone's blood pressure it'll be high this morning because i didn't get much sleep for the last three months it was high for him 140 over 90. the good news was an endorsement today from senator tom harkin a former opponent so now bill let's go on the victory but even harkin says he can't promise to deliver many labor leaders who still don't trust clinton the stakes are huge clinton must avoid another embarrassment like connecticut from jerry brown and his anti-establishment campaign and we will make it happen because we're together and it's a power that can't be stopped with hearken in tow clinton tried to reassure top party officials and democratic contributors meeting in washington now we have a habit of doing these things for ourselves way back in 1976 when president carter alban had the nomination wrapped up jerry brown got in at the end there and won five of the last six primaries clinton has almost half the delegates needed to be nominated but he hardly has the nomination wrapped up 357 super delegates democratic officials are still uncommitted all washington insiders they would never

02:00:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7201s)

all washington insiders they would never support brown but many have talked to texas senator lloyd benson about accepting a second ballot draft at a deadlock convention if clinton stumbles in the new york primary on the today program former new york mayor ed koch called both clinton and brown losers most democrats that i know are hopeful that the convention will pick someone else from the stalwarts there has not been an open convention in 40 years but until then half the nominees were chosen after several ballots the party's chairman insists it won't happen this time we haven't had a brokered convention in about half a century it is a and it is very very one senator up for re-election said with bill clinton what you see is what you get and what you see is trouble the stop clinton movement is waiting to see how he does in new york andrea mitchell nbc news washington and our chief financial correspondent mike jensen is with us now to talk some more about money and taxes our taxes mike democratic candidate jerry brown he has a an idea that's getting a lot of attention very simple right flat tax rate for everyone sounds good is it going to work eric jerry brown presents his tax plan very effectively when he's out there on the stump he starts by telling people he's going to clean the slate get rid of the income tax the 15.3 payroll follows the corporate abolish the gift policy estate but get rid of the gasoline tax the telephone tax and the airplane tax you can find any more we'll get rid of those too in their place brown would have identical taxes of 13 percent for all individuals and businesses now the 13 flat tax together with a 13 value added on all goods and services will produce the same amount of money as is now collected that's what he says and voters love it including sociology professor jim hannon but i think it will work is designed to take out some of the loopholes but most economists

02:02:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7321s)

loopholes but most economists don't think it will work they say brown's tax rate of 13 is so low it wouldn't produce enough revenue and that his plan would help the rich but hurt the poor and middle class according to one independent study someone making eight thousand dollars a year would pay almost two thousand dollars more in taxes a person who makes thirty two thousand dollars would pay seventeen hundred dollars more but a person making and thirty two thousand dollars would pay eight thousand six hundred dollars less as for companies brown says they'd pay a lot more because of his value-added tax there was a time when corporations and individuals paid about 50 percent each now it's 80 percent individuals 20 percent corporate

we put that balance back to where it was in 1950 again it sounds good but companies would raise their prices to cover the new taxes and the consumer would end up paying brown says privately that he'd make it all work adjust the numbers do whatever it takes but most analysts say jerry brown has taken two legitimate economic ideas the flat tax and the value-added tax and put them together in a way that simply doesn't work eric well mike let's separate these two taxes the v.a.t value-add attacks many european nations use it how does it actually work a company sells a product and it is taxed on that part of the product that it's actually responsible for in other words it buys materials from some other company that has already been taxed it then adds some value and it's taxed on that value a lot of economists call that a stealth tax because it never shows up on the sales receipt as a tax it simply added to the price of the product so the consumer pays it the income tax if you just had a flat income tax fourteen fifteen percent for everybody does that idea by itself excluding vit have

02:04:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7441s)

idea by itself excluding vit have validity a lot of economists think that it probably does if it was up around the level of say 17 percent and what jerry brown likes in all of this is what he calls an elegant solution that he charges 13 percent on the value-added tax 13 on the income tax and somehow magically it all works he's taken two very good ideas and they don't work the way he's put them together mike jensen thanks for being with us we are getting close to the income tax deadline that's of course not exactly news and so the idea of a simple flat tax and also an irs form no larger than a postcard is certainly appealing but there is more to it than that and today democratic candidate bill clinton was pushing his counter-attack against jerry brown's flat tax proposal here's bob kerr bill clinton is trying to reverse jerry brown's momentum in new york today clinton opened a second front in his war against the centerpiece of brown's campaign the flat tax proposal jerry brown says he wants change but newsday says his tax changes would quote stick it to the very people he claims to help the new ad reinforced the message clinton hammered home today he also suggested that brown is as elite as those he criticizes my wife and i have released our tax returns you can go look at them we'd make a lot of money out of jerry bland's plan i bet jerry brown would make a lot of money out of his tax plan he ought to release his tax returns and we could see interviewed on cnn today brown indicated he's ready to modify his tax plan to help the poor whether you provide an exclusion or you provide an earned income tax credit or you target money directly to the people who need it most at the lower levels we're certainly prepared to do that even as he showed a new york rally what he intends to do with the current tax laws brown left open the possibility of changing his proposal this is a concept and through the debate and the process of legislation we would try to hold harmless those who are least able and capable of taking care of themselves in brown's new tv ad the message to new

02:06:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7562s)

in brown's new tv ad the message to new yorkers especially blacks is that clinton is not the candidate of change and while bill clinton plays golf at a restricted all-white club something for which clinton apologized again in a debate last night i held an integrated dinner there ten years ago i said i wouldn't play golf there again until the membership was integrated the black vote could make the difference for clinton in new york so could the fact that paul sanges's name is still on the ballot even though he's no longer a candidate songus could hurt clinton in what could be a close race with brown bob kerr nbc news washington for those did you ever questions came up today bill clinton acknowledged that yes he had once tried marijuana while a student in england more than 20 years ago he said he didn't like it and never did it again and the washington post reports today that jerry brown served on the board of affirm whose parent company paid a four hundred thousand dollar penalty to the government for promoting an anti-age drug the government said was not effective brown called a congressman behalf of the company during that dispute the so-called character issues get a lot of attention these days but a more fundamental change in the democratic race so far is due to the fact that jesse jackson is not running this year and less attention is being paid therefore to the problems of the poor minorities this afternoon i talked to jackson and asked him what he thinks of the campaign so far but so far the messages have been far too narrow and far too maine a lot of focus for example on the middle class well the fact is today's working pool were yesterday's middle class they used to

make cars or they used to be in electronics factories they used to make shoes we have right now kind of high-tech uh smart bomb focused campaigning and it somewhat ignores the nature of the emergency industrial crisis in the country so you're saying the democrats the candidates clinton and brown are not

02:08:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7681s)

the candidates clinton and brown are not really living up to the potential that you would like to see in a democratic campaign well certainly they are missing an historic opportunity to put forth an alternative vision the present level of economic collapse you read the daily news about the campaign and you hear uh quips and photo ops and sound bites attack and counter attack is about to get uh bogged down into entertainment where we in fact need emancipation and a big dream you think that they are focusing on basically middle class basically white constituents voters and neglecting the broader issues which includes the poor and minorities it's much bigger than black white after all when you auction off eight hundred thousand family farmers you close down american plants and industry the lights go out and when lights go out you really can't use color for a crutch because there it's not nearly so much about black and white as it is dark and light and and wrong and right if bill clinton were to falter losing new york and the field is wide open for the nomination do you say under no conditions that you would enter the democratic race or if there were a catastrophe i would have to reconsider in a major way i want to help the party i want to help the country and so my commitment to serve is a constant one this year i'm serving but not as a candidate but i am serving by trying to change the country and its priorities i intend very much to be involved through the entire process jerry brown says that he might consider you as his vice presidential running mate if he is the candidate would you accept well i am honored to be considered we have not discussed that but if in fact the nominee were to recommend me and the convention world to ratify it i would be delighted to serve in that capacity jesse jackson a candidate in waiting no doubt and we'll be right back texas billionaire h ross perot today took an important step toward a presidential bid he chose a temporary running mate

02:10:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7801s)

he chose a temporary running mate retired admiral james stockdale a highly decorated vietnam war veteran perot had to make a choice now because many states require a vice presidential candidate for a position on the ballot meanwhile democrats bill clinton and jerry brown had a more immediate concern surviving the political gauntlet known as the new york primary nbc's andrea mitchell has more tonight in new york the tabloids accused bill clinton of being too cute of splitting hairs when he was asked before about using marijuana denying it until asked specifically if he'd done it while studying in england in wisconsin which also holds a primary next week clinton explained i was asking for a specific question i gave a specific answer it was never a big part of my life it's just one of those things that happened back then college drug use has not been a big deal to voters but it could increase doubts about clinton's honesty a new wabc poll of new york democrats found that half don't trust him i think it's just one more thing that adds to some of the some of the questions about his past and about the way he conducts his personal life clinton turned his fire on jerry brown accusing him of being a phony we now know he has he had even had to lift his announcement speech so somebody could tell him what he believed in for this election this is an outrage clinton is talking about brown's transformation from democratic fat cat two years ago to rebel with a cause when he announced for president we have to restore commitment to our nation vitality to the values of our society the clinton campaign discovered that was written almost word for word by brown advisor pat cadell four years ago cadell who advised jimmy carter and gary hart's campaigns told nbc news it was no more than any speechwriter working for a candidate brown the former party fundraiser told a lunchtime crowd on wall street today that clinton is a tool of the rich he's raised millions of dollars for the top one and he will manipulate big lie any kind of distortion to prevent the truth from coming out but

02:12:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=7921s)

to prevent the truth from coming out but the legal times reported today that brown was being paid big bucks by a los angeles law firm while out of politics and traveling the globe the race is believed to be tight and clinton feels he has to get off the defensive so today he reversed his strategy of avoiding brown and challenged him to a series of debates andrea mitchell nbc news washington and while the candidates fiddle new york city burns the city like many others around the country is struggling to survive racial and economic woes erotic infrastructure and a plague of crime and drugs nbc's national correspondent is bob kerr over the years city voters have watched politicians come and go while the problems stayed or got worse new yorkers can't be blamed for thinking they've heard it all before aid to the cities that's revenue sharing that's block grants that's high-speed trains that's apprenticeship programs that's an economic plan yet under brown the urban poor would pay much higher taxes and the super rich much less i would encourage people to invest in depressed inner city areas and to get back into real estate investment into housing investment again yet clinton concedes there's no longer enough government money to do the job and giving tax breaks to private investors increases the deficit for the homeless brown and clinton say empty buildings can be renovated and more government housing found for welfare recipients new programs to make it easier to get and hold a job for drug addicts all should receive treatment on demand and for crime brown and clinton favor handgun control it's not as simple as points of light and it's not as complex as the war on poverty it's something in between but the president has to set the tone and this president's tone is quite clear our view the republican view is based on a fundamental principle

02:14:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=8040s)

is based on a fundamental principle government is too big and it spends too much the democrats would spend more and make government bigger a necessary investment they say in the future they'd resurrect revenue sharing and urban development action grants which ended years ago they'd create enterprise zones where those who invest in inner cities would get tax breaks enterprise zones a republican idea yet each time president bush asked congress to create them the democrats in control refused they just won't do it because they don't want to give the republicans a victory in the cities if divided government is one problem another is the intractable nature of what cities are up against and less confidence that even the most well-intentioned programs can do enough bob kerr nbc news washington and while that was going on in washington and atlanta bill clinton was changing his campaign tactics in an effort to head off another jerry brown upset a week from today in the big new york primary nbc's andrea mitchell has been out on the always tough new york campaign trail she's with us tonight andrea tom the clinton campaign felt it was in so much trouble in new york that instead of trying to avoid jerry brown clinton is booking joint appearances with him only a week after clinton said he wouldn't agree to any more debates he squared off with brown today discussing solutions for ailing cities it never gets done because the people don't believe there's any way we can move aside the corrupt status quo nothing has been done because the people did not vote for a president who would take responsibility for the american people and their problems it was a rare chance for clinton's message to be heard as a southerner new york has been hostile territory most of the natives don't trust him the local media have ignored his policy proposals and bashed him repeatedly still agreeing to debate brown as a calculated risk i'm willing to give him a chance to get to the voters if i get the same chance i'm not so much interested in the combat with brown

02:16:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1Rr-MsdF7w&t=8161s)

interested in the combat with brown as i am having a way to find direct access to the voters to talk about these issues brown is finally getting more scrutiny reporters are catching up with the fact that he's switched positions on issues like taxes and abortion and was a high-priced corporate lawyer contrary to the image he now cultivates by the standards of ex-governors uh that's a very reasonable and modest sum what did you do i brought in business that's what i did even though he is a product of the political establishment brown has packaged himself as a rebel hecklers don't trail him but clinton can't even go to the doctor's office without getting razzed on the street pardon all drug dealers are just the ones that contribute to your campaign he's interrupted at every stop and you're a phony and you're dishonest and you misrepresented yourself and even when he's talking about foreign policy people ask him about his character and half the voters question

whether you have the honesty to be president what do you say about that and i said well if i'd been sitting here watching the television i would too a week is a lifetime in politics the question is whether it's enough time for clinton to reverse the negative impressions that have damaged his campaign

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